

THE HISTORY OF TOWN CLOCKS

ON THE CHURCHES IN

**WAYLAND,
MASSACHUSETTS**

Bruce F. Kingsbury

1995

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INTRODUCTION

WAYLAND, MASSACHUSETTS - TOWN CLOCKS

Who made the clock in the First Parish Church tower? That apparently simple question, although easily answered of itself, has led me on a trail that seemed never-ending. As in scientific research, so it is in historical research - the search for the answer to one question leads to new questions and new answers and so on.

After receiving permission, I climbed the tower and there was the answer - the clock was made by the E. Howard Company, Boston, Mass. While up there, I noted that the bell was apparently made by Paul Revere. Many people in town knew that, but later you will see what my research turned up!

While perusing the church files for some help, I ran across a warranty, dated 1851, from a man who made and installed a clock in the tower; his name, Almon Thwing from Mendon, Mass. Another clock before the Howard clock! What happened to it? What did it look like? What was the background of the maker?

Such is my brief introduction and I propose to report on my searches and conclusions on the four elements, namely, the 1814 bell, by Revere and Son, the 1851 clock by Thwing, the 1910 clock by Howard and the 1898 clock also by E. Howard & Company in the Methodist Church tower in Cochituate.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I owe a great debt to Helen and the late George Emery for all of their research at the time the Unitarian Clock was given new faces. Theirs provided the frame work for this paper as well as to document the fact that both Unitarian and Methodist church clocks belong to the town of Wayland, one by appropriation by an annual Town Meeting and one as a gift from approximately 200 citizens.

I wish also to thank friends who helped with the photography or as my escort to the towers on several occasions; Mr. Howard Gray of Wayland and Mr. James Sterling of Concord, Elizabeth Goeselt, a guiding spirit, and Alice Weldon, a superior typist and reader, John B. Wilson, Mrs. McLeod of the Methodist Church were very helpful in my visits to that clock.

THE BELL

Revere & Son - Boston 1814

That inscription appears in raised letters (relief) on the north side of the bell. Because of the unfavorable lighting, the small space in which to work, and the corrosion which has taken place over these 178 years it was very difficult to photograph. The surface is covered with a green corrosion product called verdigris (copper sulfate and copper chloride). This has very little to do with present day air pollution, since bronze and brass statues and plaques have always displayed verdigris after many years out-of-doors. It is sometimes thought to be desirable and can be accomplished artificially in a very short time if one wishes to have it.

But Paul Revere, the patriot, active in early wars of the British Colonies and particularly the American Revolution, a master silversmith, and engraver, (not only illustrations of current events, but also of plates for printing paper money during and after the Revolution). He also started and operated a foundry in Boston for the manufacture of cast iron objects; cooking pans and kettles, hinges, anchors and similar hardware and brass cannon, spikes, and bolts. "Casting" means heating metal until liquid then pouring it into a mold; let cool and solidify, then break away or open the mold leaving the sturdy metal object.

In 1792, Paul volunteered to cast a new bell for a church in Boston. This was quite a challenge because casting a bell of brass (bronze) requires very much more skill and experience than would a cooking pot. So many factors go into making a satisfactory bell. The constituents of the bronze itself, the shape of the bell, the thickness of the bell at various places on the bell, how the bell is hung, how it is struck. His 1792 bell was a near disaster because it had such a terrible sound - "good only for giving a fire alarm!"

Revere got some help from a former British soldier who had remained here after the Revolution and who had had some bell casting experience in England. His "copper", as it was called in those days, came from mines in Cornwall, England. It just happens that very often where miners find copper there are also other metals mixed in with it. These are likely to be gold, silver, zinc, and tin. The Cornwall "copper" was said to be more "sonorous" than other "coppers". It is well known that bell founders threw into the melted "copper" (bronze) a small amount of silver - a few coins - to give the bell "tongue". It would have a brighter, clearer tone.

A Revere & Son bell which was badly damaged in a fire gave an opportunity to take a small piece of metal for chemical analysis. It contained 77% copper, 21% tin, and small quantities of lead, arsenic, zinc, nickel, silicon, and a trace of silver. Revere & Son sold their bells for 45 cents per pound. Only 134 bells of Revere & Son are known to exist at last count.

The manufacturing difficulties were considerable. In 1792, how did one melt, and pour without stopping 1000-2000 pounds of molten bronze which is at a temperature of about 2000 degrees Fahrenheit. The mold was made in a shaped hole in the ground for strength and support. Sometimes the bell would crack as it cooled or when first struck. Revere & Son often demonstrated a new bell for the benefit of the church which had ordered it. One church in Rhode Island received its new bell and the committee reported the bell was in good condition, had a beautiful sound, but unfortunately could not be heard more than a very short distance away.

By the time Paul retired the company had made only 23 bells. His sons made a large number thereafter.

Imagine the problems of shipping and installing such a heavy object, no gasoline engines, no electricity. Revere & Son made somewhere between 400 (Nichols) or 959 (Stickney) bells, between 1792 and 1828 when they stopped production. Some were shipped to New York and further south, each hauled by a team of oxen. One even went to Shanghai, China, by ship. Revere & Son Company records say it weighed 992 (Nichols) or 1019 pounds (Stickney), two different authors.

After a windstorm destroyed the Boston factory in 1804, the business was moved to Canton, Mass. where Revere had established his copper rolling mill to make sheet copper for covering ship bottoms and many other uses. Paul Revere himself got out of the business at age 76 in 1811; one of his sons, Joseph Warren Revere, continued until 1826. The roof of the Unitarian bell platform is covered with sheet copper - also from Revere's? Another son, Paul, started his own business in 1804, but it is unclear how he marked his bells. So we cannot tell which bells are his and which were his father's or brother's.

The Unitarian Church bell, which weighs 992 pounds, is now mounted on a steel yoke in the center of a "wagon wheel" around which is placed a rope in order to ring the bell manually from below. This yoke replaced the original wood yoke which was weakened in the 1929 fire. In other words, instead of striking the bell with a "hammer", the entire bell is rotated and comes up against a hanging, nearly stationary clapper. For clock-actuated ringing a separate hammer is used to strike near the outside edge of the mouth of the bell.

Revere's copper sheet rolling mill is probably the oldest continuously operated manufacturing business in America. The Revere Copper and Brass Company of today is a direct descendent.

This is getting a little far from the subject, but this is what research does for you. Paul Revere's "copper" sheet rolling mill provided the copper to cover the bottom of the USS Constitution (Old Ironsides), thereby preventing barnacles and various seaweeds from attaching themselves to the bottom. They would reduce the speed of the ship. Copper reacts with sea water and makes a poison for barnacles and sea weed.

The largest bells the company cast were each 2437 pounds; one in King's Chapel in Boston; the other in a church in Providence, Rhode Island, The King's Chapel bell is still being rung.



REVERE BELL - 1814



FIRST PARISH CHURCH
WAYLAND

THE THWING CLOCK 1851-1910

Unfortunately nothing is known about the Thwing clock works except they operated three or four faces of the tower clock and struck the hours. The striker (hammer) that Thwing installed is apparently still the one used today. Incidentally, the very word clock comes almost directly from the German word for bell--glocke. There are purists who insist that a timepiece without a bell is not a clock.

We have just six pieces of evidence related to the Thwing clock:

1. A "warrantye" signed by Almon Thwing, a clockmaker. There is no amount of money requested.
2. A list of about 120 subscribers who contributed approximately \$439.00.
3. Warrant for the Nov. 2, 1858 Town Meeting - To see if the town will accept the clock and keep in good order.
4. Minutes of Town Meeting of Nov. 2, 1858 passed in affirmative: an agent or committee to be appointed to take care of clock. James S. Draper was appointed for this purpose.
5. The contract for the 1910 clock refers to four faces and hands which will be refinished and re-glided, and refers also to the hammer for the bell already in position. (That had to have been installed by Almon Thwing.)
6. Since there were two sets of driving weights on the premises, we have to assume that one set was from the Thwing clock.

Now as to the questions that ensnared me.

Who was Thwing? How did he learn how to make a clock? He is not in any directory of clock makers. Why was he chosen to supply the clock when the Howard Company already existed and had a wide and good reputation?

I have labored long to find one of his relatives who might have even a little information - vital records in the appropriate towns. I have queried 12 Historical Commissions in nearby towns with the hope of finding one of Thwing's clocks - without success.

Let me try to summarize some facts and make some inferences.

James Draper lived in Wayland. In fact he is on the list of contributors who purchased the clock. He was one of seven sons of Ira Draper of Weston. Two of James' brothers, Ebenezer and George went to Mendon, Mass. to work in the textile mills that flourished in that region and boarded at the Thwing house in Mendon. There were two daughters in that house and, sure enough, the two Draper young men married the two Thwing young ladies. Anna and Hannah - the brother of these two was our man, Almon.

Therefore he was brother-in-law to Ebenezer and George. Perhaps when James told his brothers that he was raising money to buy a clock, they suggested that James buy one from their brother-in-law, Almon Thwing.

Ira Draper, the father of these young men, had invented a new and exceedingly valuable device, named a "temple," to attach to a weaving loom which would immediately double the output of that loom. In 1816, he started a company to make the device and it continued to grow and prosper as the Draper Corporation. Ira sold his business to his son James in Wayland in 1829. In 1837, James sold the business to his brother Ebenezer who then took it to Uxbridge and in 1841 to the Hopedale section of Mendon.

My efforts led me to a Mr. Gordon Hopper who writes a regular column for the Milford "Daily News". He had heard of Almon Thwing and proposed writing a column in which he requested that any readers with information contact me. None have done so. (See newspaper clipping)

The New England textile industry was well underway by 1850 and therefore there must have had the supporting trades, i.e., machinists, foundries, and metallurgical skills. In addition the railroads were well underway, and here too, there had to have been all of the supporting skills to make tracks and switches, locomotives, freight cars, passenger cars and steam engines.

Our man, Almon Thwing must have come from that environment and clearly had all the skills necessary to perhaps copy a nearby tower clock and may well have made only one in his career.

In 1910 something happened to this clock - it was damaged in winding? - it just wore out so that it would no longer keep time? It was, after all, 60 years old - not extremely old for a clock, for many in Europe and America are still running after 200 or more years but probably not with all original parts still functioning.

As you can see from the contract (see pages 8 and 9), an organization called the Wayland Village Improvement Society, Walter S. Draper, Trustee, provided the new 1910 clock. It is more interesting for you to read the contract itself. At the same time, you may inspect the catalog illustrations of E. Howard and Co. and some of my photographs of the existing clock frame.

Its timekeeper was a two-meter, mahogany-rod pendulum with a cast-iron bob and the clock's works were driven by a 250 pound weight. An approximately equal weight drove the striking mechanism. These weights had to be wound once each week by the sexton, custodian, or a young man.

This clock survived a fire in 1929 when a kerosene stove exploded in the south end of the church. The fire went toward the front of the church and up the steeple. At about

This Agreement, made and entered into
this the third day of August, 1910, by and between
The E. HOWARD CLOCK COMPANY, party of the first part, and
the Wayland, Mass. Village Improvement Society, by Wallace S. Draper,
Trustee,
party of the second part,

Witnesseth: That the party of the first part for and in
consideration of the sum of Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00)

lawful money of the United States of America, to be paid
as hereinafter provided, hereby agrees to furnish and place in
position in the tower of the First Parish Unitarian Church, Wayland,
Mass.,

in complete running order, an hour striking
Tower Clock, arranged with ~~drum works~~ shafting and all con-
nections to operate hands to four dials measuring 6 feet
in diameter. * with striking hammer for the bell already in position,
also four sets of figures and dots finished in the very best quality of
gold leaf, which we are to attach to the present dial bodies after these
dial bodies have been refinished by us, and the present hands regilded
by us;

* Thwings's

This Clock shall be made in the best manner possible, the
wheels being made of HARD HAMMERED BRASS, the teeth being accurately
cut; arbors and pinions of the best OPEN HEARTH STEEL; frame and
supports of CAST IRON: the escapement will be the GRAHAM
DEAD BEAT and it will have a simple device for dis-
connecting the dial works from the main clock, so that the hands
can readily be set from the inside of the tower.

The party of the first part does hereby guarantee that the clock so furnished and set up will run without a variation of more than thirty seconds per month,

this guarantee being made upon the express condition that the party of the second part will care for and regulate the clock from time to time in a skillful and proper manner.

The party of the first part further guarantees that the clock will be free from all original defects for five (5) years.

It is understood that the party of the ~~second~~^{first} part agrees at its own expense to do all carpenter and other work necessary to prepare the tower to receive the clock outfit.

The party of the second part further agrees to pay the said sum of Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00) to the party of the first part immediately after the above mentioned clock is set up and running.

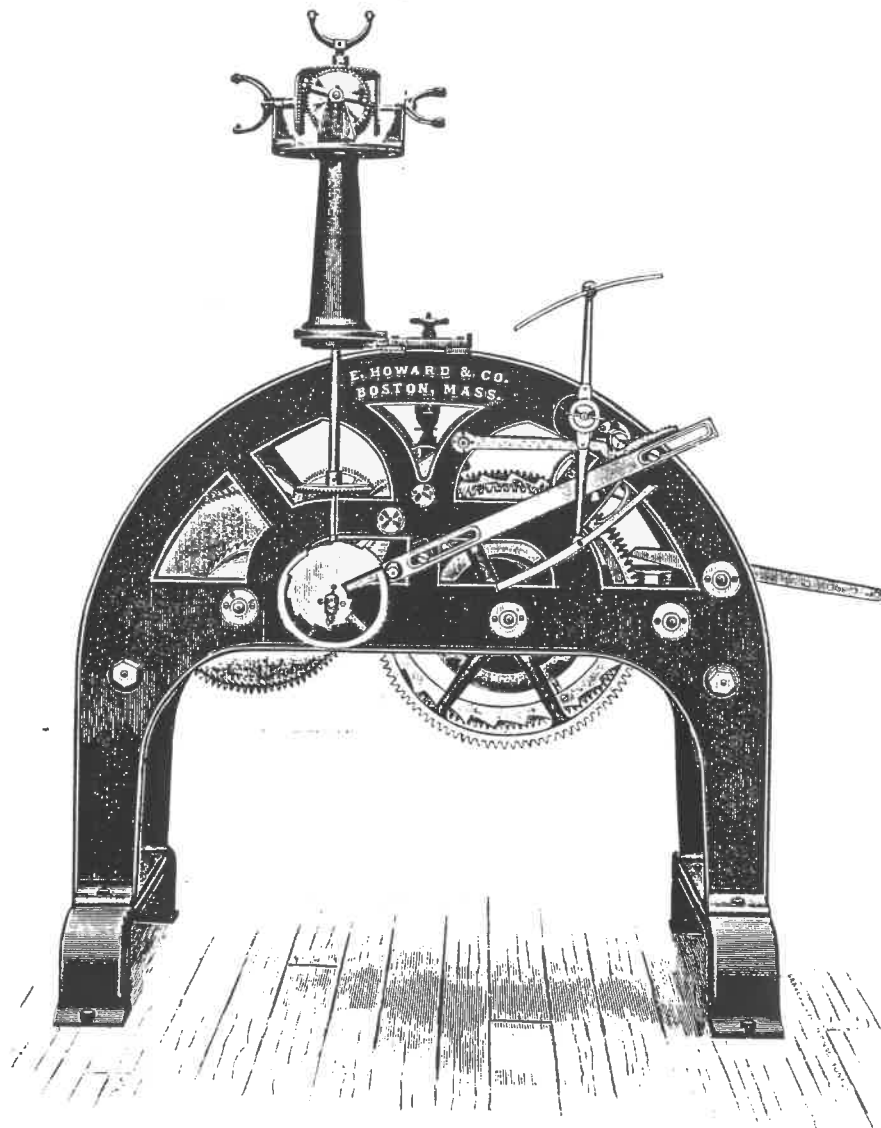
In Testimony Whereof, the parties above mentioned have hereunto set their hands the day and year first above written—
in duplicate, at Boston, Mass.

Wayland Village Improvement Society
by Kaiser S. Draper
Trustee.

THE E. HOWARD CLOCK CO.

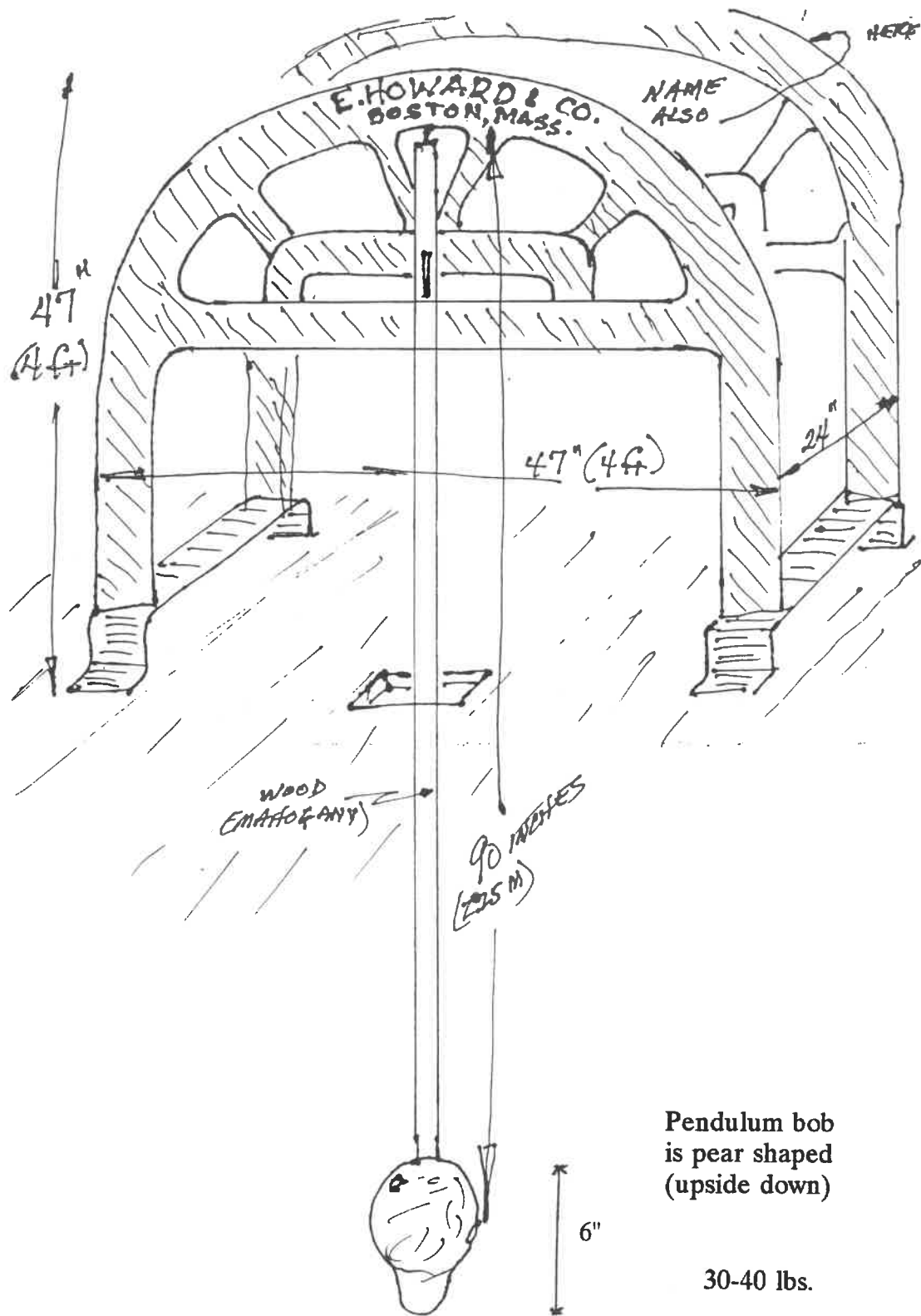
by E. A. Sigelmann
Treas.

STRIKING CLOCK

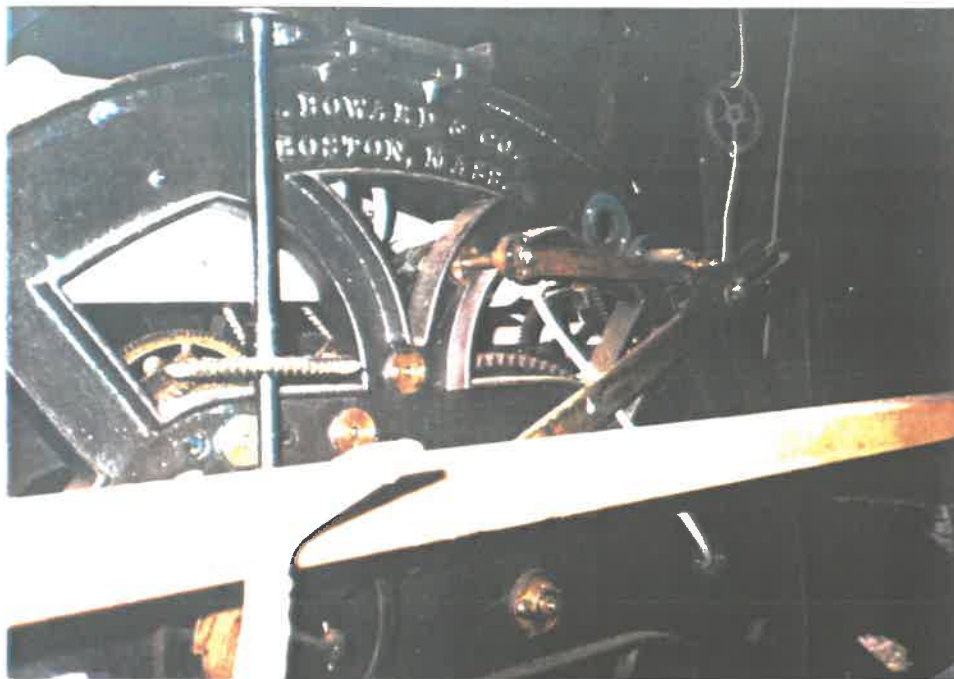


Clocks of this or similar forms are made in several sizes and grades, adapted to the driving of hands on dials ranging in their sizes from 4 feet to 8 feet in diameter, and striking the hours (and half-hours when specified) on bells ranging in weight from 500 pounds to 2,500 pounds.

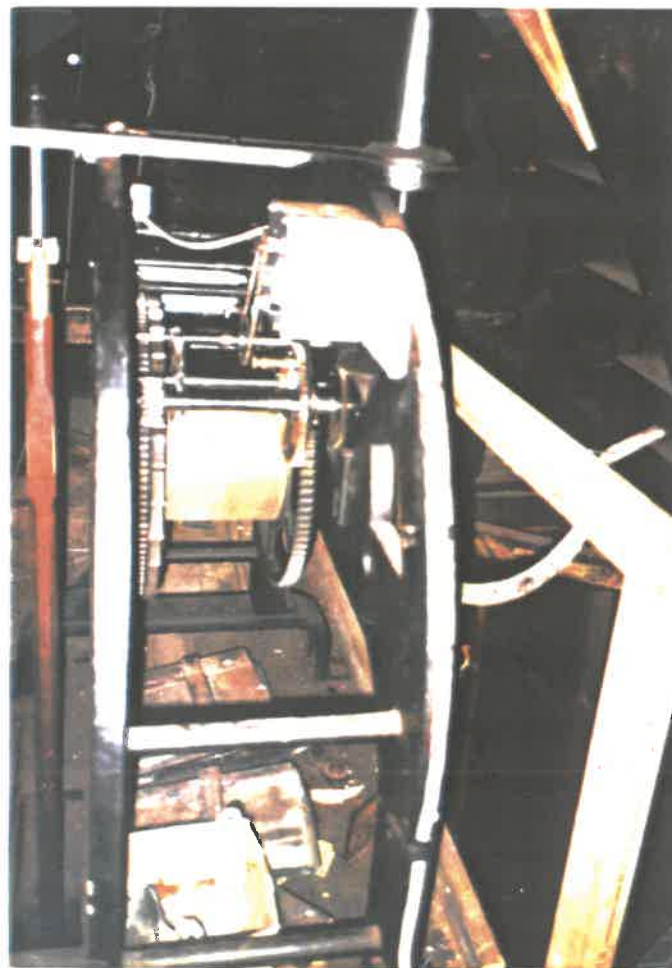
Photocopy of a page in E. Howard's catalogue



TOWN CLOCK IN FIRST PARISH CHURCH 1910



ELECTRIFIED 1969
MOST PARTS WHICH WERE
REMOVED ARE IN TOWER



12/91

this time some unspecified repairs were made to the clock works and its frame repainted (from green to black).

The 1910 clock, as I said earlier, used the striking hammer, the hands, faces (refurbished) and weights of the 1850 clock.

The Howard clock (1910) ran faithfully until 1969 - 59 years. But alas, at that time it was almost completely dismantled and a small electric motor was installed to turn the hands at the correct speeds.

There were no advocates for the wonderful old machinery (powered by a 250 pound weight) - large brass gears, majestic pendulum, over 7 feet long with an iron bob, swinging under the influence of gravity, beating out the time. Since there were no advocates, the powers that be, when some repairs were necessary, chose to replace this historic clock with a little electric motor about as big as a gallon paint can and just about as interesting. Repairs are simple - just buy a new motor - no weights to wind up!

Historical societies and museums and governments spend enormous sums to collect and preserve the past for many reasons - it gives a feeling of continuity - where we have come from. Many of the objects are intrinsically beautiful ingenious, skillfully constructed. Each generation should be keenly aware of the way things were for only then can one plan for the future with judgement and intelligence.

But what did Wayland do? In the interest of saving a few dollars we relegated our two beautiful clock works to a future of inactivity - oh! the hands turn so passersby can know the time-if the electricity does not stop!

Now, interestingly, these clocks can be put back in working order, at some cost obviously. In many cities these clocks are being restored even to building new towers, others are installed and working, at eye level in the lobby of a public building. There is no reason the clock works cannot be at eye level driving a shaft which reaches upward to the clock faces. Museums in Waltham and Sturbridge have working clock-work displays at eye-level.

The earliest known mention of the 1850 or Thwing clock.

To Horace Heard and others to whom it may
concern; - has been made and
Whereas a clock, put up by me in the
meetinghouse of the First Parish in Wayland,
I hereby warrant the same to run well and keep
good time; and I further agree to keep said clock
in repair for the term of one year, saving all
accidents which may occur thereto from causes
disconnected with any part of my work thereon.
~~and connected therewith.~~
Wayland March 29th 1851. Almon Thwing

To Horace Heard and others to whom it may concern:

Whereas a clock has been made and put up by me in the
meetinghouse of the First Parish in Wayland. I hereby warrant the
same to run well and keep good time; and I further agree to keep
said clock in repair for the term of one year, saving all accidents
which occur thereto from causes disconnected with any part of my
work thereon.

Wayland March 29, 1851.

Almon Thwing

Hopper On History

Almon Thwing: Hopedale Inventor

By GORDON E. HOPPER
Daily News Correspondent

HOPEDALE - A copy of a handwritten bill of sale supplied by Bruce Kingsbury, a Wayland resident, indicates that Almon Thwing, a Hopedale machinist and inventor, had built and installed a community clock in Wayland.

The bill of sale, signed by Thwing, reads as follows.

"To Horace Howard and others to whom it may concern. Whereas a clock has been made and put up by me in the meetinghouse of the First Parish in Wayland, I hereby warrant the same to run well and keep good time and I further agree to keep said clock in repair for the term of one year saving all accidents which may occur thereto from causes disconnected with any part of my work thereon. Wayland, March 29th, 1851."

A search of the Wayland Historical Society files conducted by Helen Fitch Emery, author of "The Puritan Village Evolves," which is the latest history of Wayland, resulted in locating a long list of names of individuals that had subscribed to the cost of the clock.

It appears that 120 residents of Wayland contributed approximately \$450 in 1850 to purchase a clock for the town and according to George Emery of the Historic District Commission, the clock was installed in 1851.

A statement in Hudson's Annals of the Town of Wayland states, "Unitarian Church built in 1814, dedicated in 1815, remodeled in 1850, public clock made by Thwing of Hopedale in 1850."

Article 4 in the November 2, 1858 town meeting warrant reads, "To see if the town will accept the clock on the Unitarian Meetinghouse and keep the same in constant repair and running order."

It was reported in the town meeting minutes dated November 2, 1858, "Passed in the affirmative; the clock to remain where it now is." James S. Draper was chosen to take care of the clock at that time.

In an obituary supplied by Paul Curran of Milford, it was stated that Almon Thwing died on November 6, 1892 at an advanced age at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Zibeon C. Field, on Walnut Street in Milford and was buried in the family lot at Hopedale Cemetery.

He was born in Uxbridge, the son of Benjamin and Anne Thwing, on July 21, 1808 and was married to Sarah Ann Darling of Uxbridge on September 13, 1832. For a short period he resided in Uxbridge, Medway and Grafton before coming to Hopedale.

Thwing was early in business and was one of the oldest and most valued members of the Hopedale Community.

He held several Milford town offices with credit and his golden wedding observance in 1882 was more of a town rejoicing than a family celebration.

A second newspaper item published on November 11, 1892, stated that Thwing was one of the early settlers in the Hopedale community and that he occupied a prominent position in the town for many years, both as a manufacturer and as an officer of the town.

As a point of interest, there was a newspaper item published in 1914 which stated that the remains of an ancient automobile had been uncovered in a building being torn down on Front Street in Milford was believed to have been at least 40 years old at that time and thought to have been built by Almon Thwing of Hopedale, an inventor and machinist.

The name of the Thwing family has been given to a street in Hopedale and the name is still retained.

In his "History of the Town of Milford" published in 1882, Adin Ballou states, "In respect to its topography and altitude above the level of the ocean, I engaged Mr. Almon Thwing of Hopedale to make examination and measure-

ments which would enable me to place on record numerous interesting particulars worthy of transmission to after-times, as well as gratifying to the curiosity of the present generation. He made the following report."

Thwings's effort in 1879 takes up three pages in Ballou's book and in the last paragraph Thwing wrote, "I have been thus particular in regard to the rivers, hills and valleys of the town to find and verify their altitudes, etc., in hope to settle some disputed points and to correct erroneous ideas among our inhabitants derived from former topographical surveys, or from crude estimates founded on mere appearances to the common eye. I have spared no reasonable pains to be accurate and reliable in my statements and believing that no tests will ever invalidate their substantial correctness, they are respectfully submitted for publication. Almon Thwing, Hopedale, April 24, 1879."

It is believed that this clock was probably replaced around 1910 because there is a formal contract in the church archives dated August 3, 1910 between the E. Howard Clock Company and the Wayland Village Improvement Society, Wallace S. Draper, Trustee, to install a tower clock in the tower of the First Parish Unitarian Church in Wayland for \$600.

Also to be included were "four sets of figures and dots in the very best quality of gold leaf which are to be attached to the present dial bodies after they have been refinished and the present hands regilded by the Howard Company."

Readers who have any knowledge about Thwing's clockmaking activities, what went wrong with the clock, its disposition and what it might have looked like, are requested to contact Bruce Kingsbury, 7 Goodman Lane, Wayland, MA 01778 or telephone him at 508-358-4337.

PLEASE GO TO THE APPENDIX IF YOU MIGHT WISH TO SEE
A COPY OF THE ORIGINAL LIST OF PLEDGES

Wayland Sept. 10, 1850

We the Subscribers promise to pay the sum set against our respective names, for the purpose of procuring a Clock to be placed on the Meetinghouse of the First Parish in Wayland. The Subscription not to be binding, unless a sum can be obtained, sufficient to purchase a Clock, with 3 or 4 faces and one that shall Strike the hour on the Bell.

Names	Dolls	cts	Names	Dolls	cts
Wm C. Grout	pd	10.00	William Bridge	paid	5.00
Ira.B.Draper	pd	3.00	J.S.Monroe	paid 2.50	5.00
Jas S.Draper	pd	10.00	Josiah Smith	pd	1.00
William Heard	paid	10.00	Henry Reeves	pd	3.00
Richard Heard	paid	10.00	Newell Heard	pd	3.00
Josiah Russell	pd	5.00	J.D.Parmenter	paid	5.00
Joseph Bullard	pd	5.00	A.S.Roby	pd	2.00
Luther B. White	pd	3.00	C.N.Sherman	pd	5.00
Geo Smith	pd	2.00	Thomas Keating	pd	2.00
Susan Grout	pd	5.00	H.R.Sibley	pd	2.00
T.F.Adlington	pd	2.00	G A Somerby	pd	5.00
Asahel Sherman		2.00	Enos Clapp	pd	5.00
Bobie R.Fay		1.00	John Carver		1.00
James Draper	pd	10.00	Ebenr Ames	pd	5.00
			James Francis	pd	3.00
			H.Heard	pd	15.00
			(over)	137	

Subscription brought over and continued
(\$137.00)

Names	\$.	cts	Names	\$.	cts
Wm & S.E.Baldwin	pd	2.00	Edward Mellen	pd	8.00
David Smith		2.00	George E.Sherman	pd	1.00
H R Newton	paid	2.00	Joseph R.Winch	pd	1.00
B S Batchieu	paid	2.00	Wm Heard 2nd	pd	1.00
H.C.Batcheller	paid	2.00	Moses W.Parmenter	pd	1.00
Isaac M.Jones	paid	2.00	Jude Damon	pd	2.00
David Heard	paid	5.00	Geo.Heard	pd	1.00

Wm Whittemore	pd	3.00
C.H.Campbell	paid	3.00
Franklin Farrar	pd	2.00
James Adams	paid	2.00
Jonas N.Morse	pd	2.00
Edward Rice	pd4D.	5.00
J.H.Reeves	pd	2.00
J.Thompson	paid	2.00
Otis Loker	paid	2.00
James D.Loker	paid	1.00
Henry Sherman	paid	5.00
William H.Bemis	pd	1.00
Willard B.Ward	paid	1.00
Joseph Rice	pd	1.00
C.R.Damon	pd	1.00
Nathan S. Johnson	paid	5.00
S.H.M. Heard	pd	1.00
		53.00
		<u>137.00</u>
		190.00
		<u>10.00</u>
		200.00

Abel Heard	pd	2.00
Abel Glezen	pd	5.00
Leonard Wood	pd	5.00
S. Carpenter	pd	1.00
Wm R.Dudley	pd	2.00
C.J.Wood	pd	1.00
Ellis B Bramhall		3.00
Lewis Jones	paid	2.00
James D.Walker	pd	1.00
Henry Wight	pd	1.00
James M. Francis	pd	5.00
H.B.Braman	pd	2.00
Sylvester Reeves	pd	1.00
John B.Wight	pd	2.00
Ebenr Johnson	paid	2.00
Mrs. Harriet S.H.Wyman	five dolls paid	
Josiah Rutter	paid	3.00
Convers Francis	paid	3.00

Cash	pd	1.00
C.Wesson	pd	1.00
Sumner Moore	pd	3.00
S.M.Thomas	pd	3.00

Paid

A.Glezen	5.00	W.C.Grout	10.00
S.Carpenter	1.00	J.S.Draper	10.00
W R Dud.	2.00	Jas Draper	10.00
H Wight	1.00	Josiah Smith	1.00
H B Braman	2.00	Henry Reeves	3.00
Sylvester Reeves	1.00	Wm Heard 2nd	1.00
Sumner Moore	3.00	S Carpenter	1.00
N S Johnson	5.00	Josiah Rutter	3.00
Ebnr Johnson	2.00	Convers Francis	3.00
Lewis Jones	2.00	G.G.	1.00
J.Russell	5.00	C.Weston	1.00
J.D Walker	1.00	William Heard	10.00
Ebnr Ames	5.00	Richard Heard	10.00
Jos Bullard	5.00	C H Campbell	3.00

L Wood	5.00
C J. Wood	1.00
Geo Heard	2.00
A Heard	2.00

L M Jones	2.00
Geo.Smith	2.00
S Grout	5.00
H Heard	3.00
H B Sibley	2.00
G A Somerby	5.00
H Heard	15.00
W Whittemore	3.00
J N Morse	2.00
Jos Rice	1.00
S H M Heard	<u>1.00</u>
	108.00

Jos A. Roby	2.00
H.R.Newton	2.00
H.C.Bachelder	2.00
B.L.Bachelder	2.00
I.Thompson	2.00
Otis Loker	2.00
J.D.Loker	1.00
Henry Sherman	2.00
J.R.Winch	1.00
T.J.Thompson	<u>2.00</u>
	18.00

Deacon Rice	1.00
Tho. Keating	2.00

PLEASE GO TO THE APPENDIX IF YOU MIGHT WISH TO SEE
A COPY OF THE ORIGINAL

Warrant for November 2, 1858 Town Meeting

Nov 1858

To Saml. H. M. Heard Constable of the Town of Wayland in the County of Middlesex Greeting in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn all the Inhabitants of the Town of Wayland qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday the second day of November next at one o'clock in the afternoon to act on the following articles vis.

Art.1 To give in their votes for Governor Lieutenant-Governor Secretary Treasurer & Receiver General Attorney General & Auditor of accounts of this Commonwealth, also Councillor for Councillor District No.6, Senator for Dist. No 3. Middlesex County. Representative to General Court for Dist No. 16, Middlesex County and also for Register of Probate & Insolvency for the County of Middlesex, also for County Commissioner & for County Treasurer for Middlesex County, also for Register of Deeds for the Southern District of Middlesex County, and also for Representative to Congress for District No. 8 all on one ballot.

Art. 2 To choose a Moderator

Art. 3 To see if the Town will order a new Hearse House erected or do or act in any very relative thereto

Art. 4 To see if the Town will accept the Clock on the Unitarian Meetinghouse and keep the same in constant repair and running order or do or act any way relative thereto

Art.5 To see if the Town will take measures to fill up & grade the south Burrial [sic] ground or do or act any way relative thereto

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up true and attested copies thereof...

PLEASE GO TO THE APPENDIX IF YOU MIGHT WISH TO SEE
A COPY OF THE ORIGINAL

Town Meeting Minutes Nov.2, 1858

Nov 1858

County Treasurer	Whole Number of Ballots	One hundred thirty three
	Amos Stone of Charlestown	One hundred
	Jesse Fogg of Cambridge	Thirty three

Representative to the General Court		
	Whole number of Ballots	One hundred thirty three
	Benjamin W. Gleason of Stow	Seventy four
	Francis Tuttle of Stow	Thirty six
	John W. Rice of Sudbury	Twenty three

Art 2 Chose William Heard 2d Moderator

3 The whole subject of this article was referred to the Burrial [sic] Ground Committee

Also voted to instruct the Committee to build a new Hearse House and sell the old one

4 Passed in the affirmative; The clock to remain where it now is, & appointed an Agent or Committee to take care of the clock

Chose James S. Draper an Agent for that purpose.

5 Passed over

Voted to dissolve the meeting.

A true copy of the Warrant and doings of the Town

Attest Henry Wight Clerk

THE METHODIST CHURCH TOWN CLOCK

Some years before the second clock was put in the First Parish tower the Methodist Episcopal Church built its building without a tower. However, a tower was built in 1896. It was not long before the need was felt for a clock.

Town Meeting of March 22, 1897 contained the following piece of business.

Article 13:

"To see if the Town will vote to purchase a suitable clock to be placed in the new tower of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Cochranton, and to appropriate for said purchase the sum of five hundred dollars, also to provide for the proper care of said clock."

The action taken on this article was:

"Voted: That a committee of three be nominated from the floor to purchase a Town clock, and that said clock be placed in the tower of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Cochranton, and that the sum of five hundred dollars be appropriated for said purchase and the same be assessed. Also that the care of said clock be entrusted to the Trustees of said Church. Committee elected as follows:

M. Emory Wright
Eugene M. Ball
John Connelly"

At the annual meeting of the Methodist Church the committee (above) turned the clock over to the Trustees to hold in trust for the town. Mr. A. J. Ricker was put in charge of the clock. The minutes were signed by G. F. Marston, Sec.

This clock was made by E. Howard, one of the most reputable and perhaps largest clock company in the U.S. at that time.

As the accompanying photographs show it is a handsome clock work - pendulum still in place - over 7 feet long - much of it and the bob are below the floor. It must have been satisfactory because as you saw earlier the town in 1910 purchased the same model for the First Parish.

However in 1969, when town officials ran out of patience for maintaining both clocks they had them disembowelled and two small synchronous electric motors, one for the time and one for strike, were installed to replace the weights and pendulum. Consequently, there is a pile of gears thrown into a corner of each tower.

PLEASE GO TO THE APPENDIX IF YOU MIGHT WISH TO SEE
A COPY OF THE ORIGINAL

To the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church
Cochituate Mass.

The Undersigned a Committee appointed by the town of Wayland; at its regular Town Meeting, held March twenty second A.D. 1897, to purchase a Town Clock; have attended to that duty as directed. The clock has been placed in the tower of said Methodist Episcopal Church, permission so to do having been duly granted by the Quartly [sic] Conference of said church.

The working of said clock having thus far proven satisfactory; we have accepted the same and hereby deliver it into your keeping according to the vote of said Town of Wayland, and subjected to the Conditions already agreed to by said Quartly [sic] Conference.

Signed M.Emory Wright
 Eugene M.Ball
 John Connelly

Committee

Cochituate Mass
March 1898

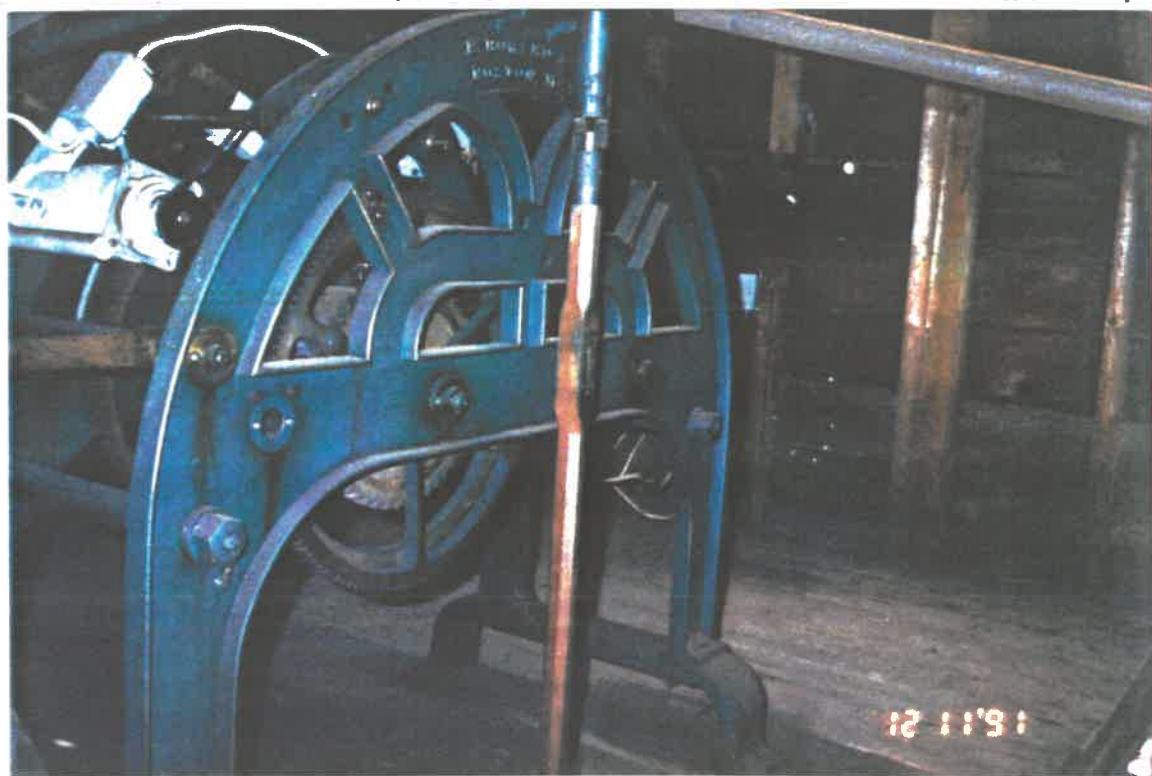
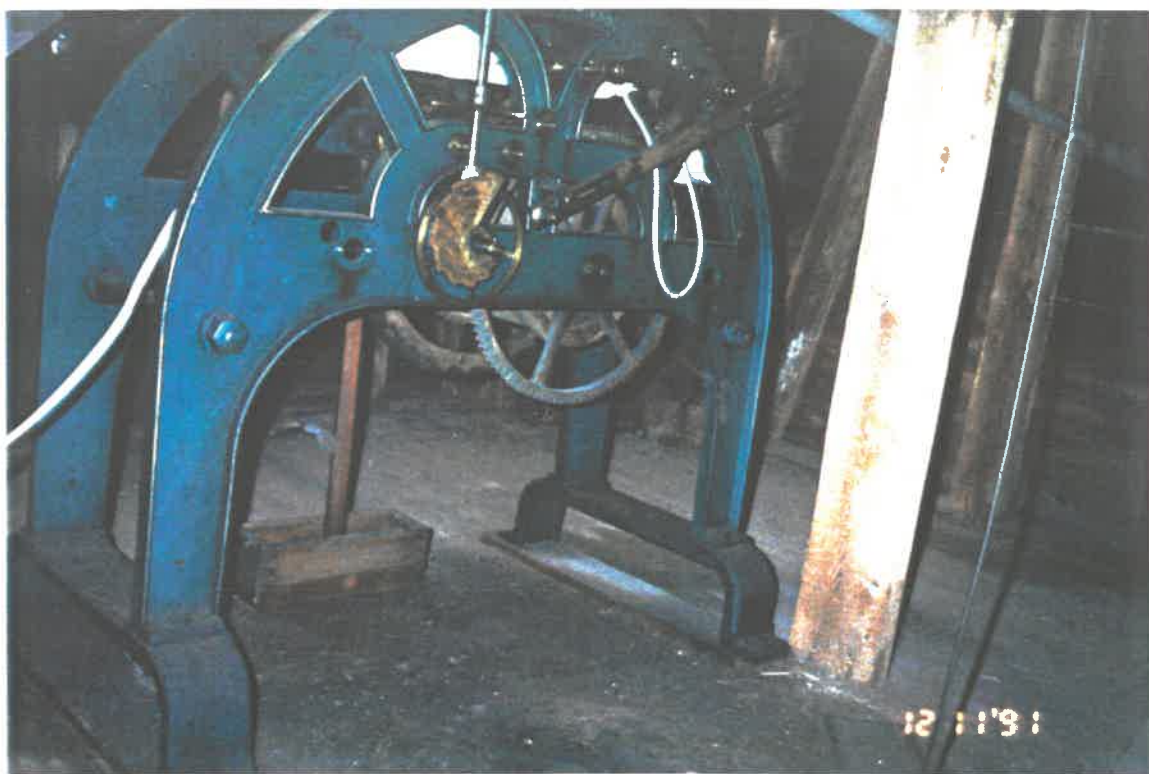
A true copy
G.F Marston Sec.

It was unfortunate that this was done for now it is probably prohibitively expensive to restore them. There are companies and individuals who could restore them and are doing so now all over the country. If it were restored it could easily be wound electrically - at least then when our electric power was knocked out by a storm the clock would run on its own for one to several days.

The Town having purchased the clock and turned it over to a committee to oversee, and then proceeded to pay rent to the churches for the clocks for many years. The record is not clear on whether or not the present bell had been purchased before the clock or at the same time.

Since this clock and the one in the First Parish are essentially twins, this one was also controlled by 7-foot 4 inch pendulum whose bob weighed approximately 30-40 pounds. The driving weights, one for the time works and one for the striking works, weighed approximately 250 pounds each. Someone, of course, had to wind them both each week. One of the last of these in the Methodist Church was William Marston (son of Arthur F. Marston who himself was the clock winder for 40 years). He said 235 turns of the crank were required to get the weights to the top.

TOWN CLOCK IN METHODIST CHURCH 1898



TOWN CLOCK IN METHODIST CHURCH 1898



A few of the parts that were
removed when electrified in 1969.
One other is across the room.

COCHITUATE METHODIST CLOCK & BELL



"CAST BY WILLIAM BLAKE & CO.
FORMERLY H.N.HOOPER & CO.
BOSTON AD 1879"

NEW CLOCK FACES

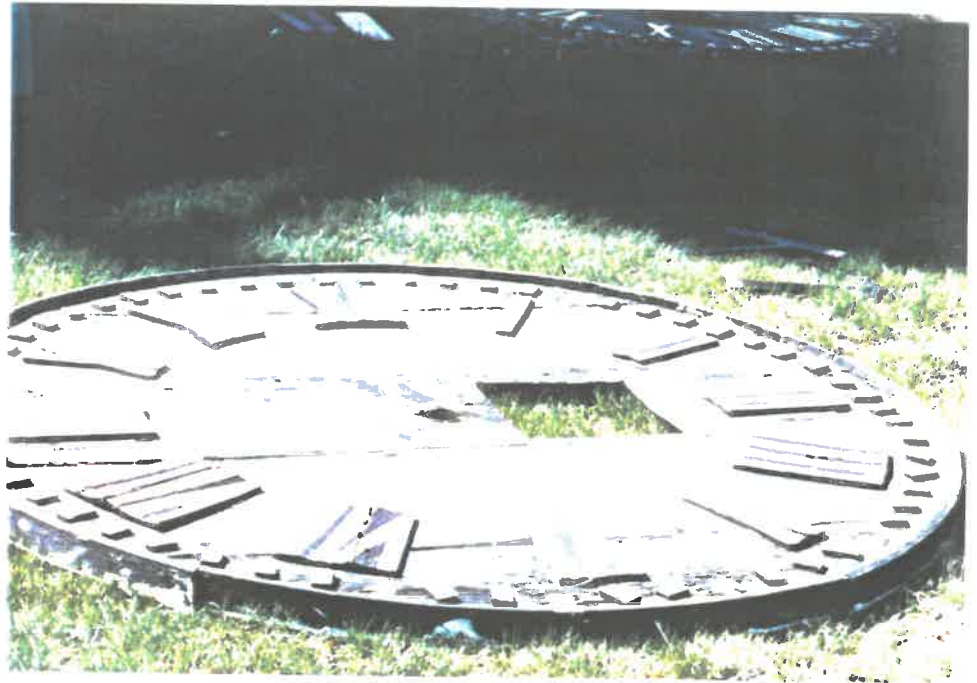
In 1986 the annual Town Meeting, appropriated \$9000 for four new faces and sets of hands for the Town Clock in the Unitarian steeple (see pictures in the appendix). The church contributed additional money to make the repairs possible and the Wayland Depot also contributed money from its operation of the craft shop in the old railroad depot. One old face is currently in the custody of the Wayland Historical Society.

The style of the numerals, to wit., the four was changed from the 1850 style, i.e., IIII, to a more current style, i.e., IV.

The 1994 annual Town Meeting has appropriated funds to refurbish the faces and hands of the Town Clock in the Methodist Church steeple.

INSTALLING THE NEW CLOCK FACES AND RESTORED 1850 HANDS
(NOT SHOWN) APRIL 1988. Photo by John B. Wilson

One face is stored at
the Historical Society.
(Original hands were
refurbished.)



INSTALLING THE NEW CLOCK FACES AND RESTORED 1850 HANDS
(NOT SHOWN) APRIL 1988. Photo by John B. Wilson



MADE FROM MAHOGANY TO WITHSTAND WEATHERING. CLOSE COPIES OF
THE ORIGINALS.

APPENDIX

Wayland Sept 10, 1850

We the Subscribers promise to pay the sum set against our respective names, for the purpose of procuring a clock to be placed on the Meetinghouse of the First Parish in Wayland. The Subscription not to be binding, unless a sum can be obtained, sufficient to purchase a clock, that with 3rd faces and one that shall strike the hour on the Bell.

Names

Bells etc

Names

Bells etc

Wm C. Grout	pd	10.00
Lea B. Draper	pd	5.00
Ja ^s O. Draper	pd	10.00
William F. Heard	paid	10.00
Richard Heard	paid	10.00
Josiah Russell	pd	5.00
Joseph B. White	pd	5.00
Luther B. White	pd	5.00
Geo Smith	pd	2.00
Susan Grout	pd	5.00
Geo. C. Draper	pd	2.00
John C. Draper	pd	1.00
James Draper	pd	10.00

William Bridgman	pd	5.00
J. S. Draper	pd	2.50
Josiah Smith	pd	1.00
Henry Rees	pd	3.00
Nathaniel Cleland	pd	3.00
J. D. Parmenter	paid	5.00
J. R. Sherman	pd	5.00
John C. Draper	pd	2.00
John C. Draper	pd	2.00
John C. Draper	pd	5.00
Enos Clatch	pd	5.00
John Barnes	pd	5.00
Ebenezer Ames	pd	5.00
James T. Draper	pd	5.00
H. Heane	pd	15.00
(Over)		18.00

Subscription brought over and continued
(£ 137.00)

Names	£.	d.	Names	£.	d.
M ^r . F. S. C. Baldwin	2	00	Edward Miller	8	00
David Smith	2	00	George E. Sherrington	1	00
W. H. Newton Paid	2	00	Joseph C. Winch	2	00
+ B. S. Batchen Paid	2	00	Moses W. Parmenter	1	00
H. C. Batcheller Paid	2	00	Juste D. D. D.	2	00
Grace M. Jones Paid	2	00	Geo. Heard	1	00
David Heard Paid	5	00	Abel Heard	2	00
Wm. Whittier	3	00	Abel Glezen	5	00
E. H. Campbell Paid	3	00	Leonard W. W.	5	00
Franklin Farnsworth	2	00	J. Barker	1	00
James Adams Paid	2	00	Wm. R. Dudley	2	00
Edward Rice	5	00	C. J. Wood	1	00
J. H. Reeves	2	00	Ellis W. Branch	3	00
+ J. H. Thompson Paid	2	00	Lewis Jones Paid	2	00
+ C. H. Baker Paid	2	00	James D. Walker	1	00
James D. Loker Paid	1	00	Henry Wight	1	00
Henry Thurnton Paid	1	00	James M. Francis	5	00
William S. Bemis	1	00	H. B. Brown	2	00
Arthur D. Ward Paid	1	00	Sylvester Reeves	1	00
Joseph Rice	1	00	John B. Wright	2	00
E. R. Landon	1	00	Ben. Johnson	2	00
Walter S. Johnson	5	00	Mrs. Harriet S. J. Wymann	1	00
S. W. M. Heard	1	00	Josiah Rutter Paid	3	00
	53	00	Convers Francis Paid	3	00
	1	37			
	1	90			

Cash pd. 1.00
 b. Weston pd. 1.00
 Summer Moore pd. 3.00
 S. M. Shon pd. 3.00

21st Nov

		Paid
A. Gleason	1.00	W. Grant 10.00
J. P. Patten	1.00	J. S. Drott 10.00
W. A. Drott	2.00	Jas Drott 10.00
W. Wright	1.00	Jonah Smith 1.00
J. B. Drott	1.00	Henry Reins 3.00
Stephen Drott	1.00	Wm Heard 1.00
Sammy Moore	3.00	S. Corbitt 1.00
W. D. Johnson	5.00	Jonah Dutton 3.00
W. Johnson	2.00	Conner Fournier 3.00
Lewis Jones	2.00	G. G. 1.00
J. Russell	5.00	C. Weston 1.00
J. D. Walker	1.00	William Heard 10.00
E. A. Jones	5.00	Richard Heard 10.00
Jos Bullard	5.00	C. H. Campbell 3.00
L. Wood	5.00	S. M. Jones 2.00
C. J. Word	1.00	39 50 50
Geo Heard	1.00	30 00
A. Heard	2.00	20 00
		50 00
		15 00
		30 00

ve dolls Paid

108.00

Jan 7 of Jan 10. 1894.
 Jas A. Roby \$2.00 Deacon Rice - 1.00
 H. R. Newton 2.00 The Heating - 2.00
 H. C. Batskuden 2.00
 B. L. Batskuden 2.00
 J. Thompson - 2.00
 O. L. Liker - 2.00
 J. L. Liker - 1.00
 Henry Shuman - 2.00
 J. R. Winch - 1.00
 J. J. Thompson - 2.00
 18.00

Town Meeting Warrant, November 1858

Nov 1858 To Saml H. M. Heard Constable of the Town of
Wayland in the County of Middlesex Greeting
In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you
are hereby directed to notify and warn all the Inhabit.
of the Town of Wayland qualified to vote in Elections and i
Town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall in said Town on
Tuesday the second day of November next at one o'clock
in the afternoon to act on the following articles viz.

Art 1 To give in their votes for Governor Lieutenant Govern
Secretary Treasurer & Receiver General, Attorney General
& Auditor of accounts of this Commonwealth, also Council
for Councillor District No 6, Senator for Dist. No 3 Middle
County. Representative to General Court for Dist No 16
Middlesex County and also for Register of Probate & Insolven
for the County of Middlesex, also for County Commissioner
& for County Treasurer for Middlesex County, also for
Register of Deeds for the Southern District of Middlesex
County, and also for Representative to Congress for Dist
No. 8 all on one ballot

Art 2 To choose a Moderator

Art 3 To see if the Town will order a new House
House erected or do or act in any way relative thereto

Art 4 To see if the Town will accept the Clock on the
Unitarian Meetinghouse and keep the same in constant
repair and running order or do or act any way relative
thereto

Art 5 To see if the Town will take measures to fill up
& grade the south Burial ground or do or act any way
relative thereto

Nov 1858 County Treasurer Whole number of Ballots One hundred thirty three
Amos Stone of Charlestown One hundred
Jesse Fogg of Cambridge Thirty three

Representative to the General Court

Whole number of Ballots	One hundred thirty three
Benjamin W. Gleason of Stow	Seventy four
Francis Tuttle of Stow	Thirty six
John W. Rice of Sudbury	Twenty three

Art 2 Chose William Heard 2^d Moderator

3 The whole subject of this article was referred to the Business Ground Committee

Also voted to instruct the Committee to build a new Hearse House and to sell the old one

4 Passed in the affirmative; The clock to remain where it now is, upon an Agent or Committee to take care of the clock.

chose James S. Draper an Agent for that purpose.

5 Passed over

voted to dissolve the meeting.

A true copy of the Warrant and doings of the Town

Attest Henry M. Night Clerk

To Sam^l H. M. Heard Constable of the Town of Wayland
in the County of Middlesex " " " " Breting
In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
you are hereby directed to notify and warn all the Inhab-
itants of the Town of Wayland qualified to vote in
Elections and in Town affairs to meet at the Town
Hall in said Town on Saturday the fifteenth day

36

Article 12. To see if the town will appropriate fifty dollars to relay and widen the culvert on Harrison Avenue, or do or act,

Article 13. To see if the town will vote to purchase a suitable clock to be placed in the new tower of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Cochranton, and to appropriate for said purchase the sum of five hundred dollars, also to provide for the proper care of said clock.

Article 14 To see if the town will refund to Robert N. Jernison the sum of fifteen dollars and sixty one cents for taxes paid from 1886 to 1896 on meadow land.

Article 15. To see if the town will appropriate eighty five dollars to purchase a snow-plough, or do or act.

Article 16. To see if the town will instruct its Selectmen, if they deem it advisable, to petition the County Commissioners to re-locate, widen and straighten the road leading from Wayland Centre to Cochranton, from "Johnson's Lane" to the Central Mass. Railroad location at Wayland Centre, or do or act.

Article 17. To see if the town will increase the number of its School Committee to six members, or do or act.

Article 12. Voted. To pass over the article.

Article 13. Voted. That a committee of three be nominated from the floor to purchase a Town clock, and that said clock be placed in the tower of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Cohasset, and that the sum of five hundred dollars be appropriated for said purchase and the same be assessed. Also that the care of said clock be entrusted to the Trustees of said Church.

Committee elected as follows:—

Mo. Emory Wright -

Eugene Mo. Bull

John Connolly,

Article 14. Voted: That the sum of fifteen dollars and sixty one cents be refunded to Robert N. Jernison and the same be drawn from the Contingent Fund.

Article 15. Voted: That the Town purchase a Snow Plow for the sum of eighty-five dollars and the same be drawn from the Contingent Fund.

Article 16. Voted. That the matter of petitioning the County Commissioners to relocate &c the

To the Trustees of the
Methodist Episcopal Church
Cochituate Mass

The undersigned a Committee
appointed by the Town of Wayland; at its
regular Town Meeting, held March
twenty second, A.D. 1897, to purchase
a Town Clock; have attended to that
duty as directed. The clock has been
placed in the tower of said Methodist
Episcopal Church, permission so to do
having been duly granted by the Quarterly
Conference of said Church.

The working of said clock having thus
far proven satisfactory; we have accepted
the same and hereby deliver it into
your keeping according to the vote of
said Town of Wayland and subjected
to the conditions already agreed to by
said Quarterly Conference.

Signed (H. E. May Wright)

(Eugene M. Bell) Committee
John Connelly

Cochituate Mass
March 1898

A true copy
J. F. Mason Sec.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

PAUL REVERE AND THE WORLD HE LIVED IN

Forbes, Esther
Houghton - Boston
1942

THE BELLS OF PAUL REVERE

Stickney, Edward and Evelyn
Bedford, MA
1976

BELLS OF PAUL REVERE

Nichols, Arthur H.
Historical Collections of the Essex Institute
Vol. XLXII - p. 293
1911

UNPUBLISHED CHRONOLOGY OF THE WAYLAND CLOCKS put together
by Mrs. Helen Emery and her late husband George. This was done to
demonstrate that clocks were indeed owned by the Town who supported their
maintenance for many, many years. It is in the files of the Historical Society.
1986.

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT. RECORDS AND ACCOUNTS, in ledger books at
Wayland Public Safety building facilities

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF THE COMMUNITY METHODIST CHURCH,
A brief history of the building and progress of the church. 1991

